

Indeed, within the last months, three journalists have been murdered in three different Mexican states, joining the tragic toll of more than 50 Mexican journalists killed or disappeared since 2007.

I wish, Mr. Speaker, I stood before you today with a simple solution to these problems. I do not. But I do know that the struggle of the Mexican people for a peaceful, safe, and well-governed nation is our struggle as well. They must know that we are paying attention and that we recognize that Mexico's problems are also our own.

DODD-FRANK WALL STREET REFORM ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HARDY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the unfortunate Dodd-Frank Wall Street Act.

This week marks the fifth anniversary of the signing of the law that was the Democratic answer to the recession that impacted our Nation.

My State, the State of Nevada, was devastated by the meltdown which started with the weakening of the credit standards, and it erupted into foreclosures that brought our fiscal system to the edge of the cliff.

At the peak of the recession, Nevada had an unemployment rate of 13.7 percent. Nevadans all over the State were losing their jobs, their homes, and their businesses.

The Democratically controlled Congress and the Democratically controlled White House responded with regulation after regulation on the false pretense that the crash was caused by the lack of rules.

Five years in and what do we have today? We have for the first time in over three decades more small businesses failing than being started. Think about that. We have more small business deaths than we have small business births.

The life blood of our Nation lies with small businesses. According to the 2012 data from the Small Business Administration, 64 percent of all private-sector jobs were created by small businesses. Half of all people employed in this country work for small businesses.

I am going to repeat we now have more small business deaths than we have small businesses being started. They are being suffocated by 400 new Federal regulations.

One-size-fits-all rules have impacted small bankers, so much that we have less community banks now than we had before Dodd-Frank.

These small community banks serve my constituents. They serve the neighbors of my district. They serve the neighborhoods of our country.

These community banks were not the banks making the risky loans. They were building strong relationships with their customers, but now, because of Dodd-Frank, there are fewer of them.

How did Dodd-Frank address Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac? It didn't. It didn't reform Fannie or Freddie. Dodd-Frank, in essence, is top-down governance from Washington bureaucrats.

Instead of ending too-big-to-fail, regulators inserted it into law. We now have SIFIs, systemically important financial institutions.

If a bank is defined as a SIFI, it will surely be the first to be bailed out because they are systemically too important.

This presents a problem of moral hazard. Dodd-Frank put it in law that they will be bailed out by Americans and their hard-earned money. Dodd-Frank was supposed to end this practice and it was supposed to protect the consumer.

After 5 years, we now have SIFIs. We now have fewer community banks. Simply put, our businesses are facing higher borrowing costs and the inability to create jobs.

Nevada today has an unemployment rate of 6.9 percent. Nevadans don't want more regulations, they want more jobs. Like all Americans, they want more opportunities. They want access to capital to start their new companies and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, the burdensome Dodd-Frank law is still churning out final rules. Americans will continue to face the red tape during this slog of a recovery.

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, last week, thanks to the leadership of the Senate HELP Committee, Chairman LAMAR ALEXANDER and Ranking Member PATTY MURRAY, the Senate passed a bipartisan bill known as the Every Child Achieves Act that would reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This is the law the Federal Government has with respect to kindergarten through twelfth grade education.

I applaud my Senate colleagues for reaching across the aisle and working collectively in good faith to expand access to early childhood education to improve programs for English language learners and to ensure accountability in serving our neediest students.

It is far from perfect. But in 2002, the reauthorization of the same act, known as No Child Left Behind, was implemented.

It gave this principle that we would look at the students who are falling through the cracks. It meant to serve our poor and minority students, students with disabilities, and English learners.

After all, let's not forget that the original ESEA, the original one in 1965,

had an exact declaration of policy that said "in recognition of the special education needs of children of low-income families." This landmark legislation in 1965 is a civil rights law.

It reaffirmed *Brown v. Board of Education*. It reaffirmed the 1947 *Mendez v. Westminster* decision, which happened in my own district, which was the precursor to *Brown v. Board*. It said every child has the right to an equal opportunity for a quality education.

Let's be honest. We are in the wake of a civil rights movement in this country. When we see tragedies in Ferguson, to Charleston, to presidential candidates issuing condemnations to immigrant families who come and who contribute to this country, to milestone victories where we see all individuals throughout the States may choose to marry the ones that they love, we can no longer ignore the social and the economic issues our great Nation is currently facing.

It all starts in our classrooms, in the quality of the education and the fundamental values that we impart to our children.

That is why I am also extremely disappointed in the House version of the ESEA where it limits the opportunity for our neediest students.

The Student Success Act—this is the one that the Republicans are putting forward—would take away \$3 billion over the next 6 years from the 32 largest school districts and most diverse school districts in our Nation, by the way, many of those students being Black and Latino. While the Senate's Every Child Achieves Act accomplishes tremendous feats in expanding access, the House bill actually does not.

So what do we do? We must make sure that the bills that we pass have actions intended in them. The Senate bill, for example, makes actions optional when schools are not meeting goals while eliminating requirements for States to identify schools that are in need of intervention where it is detrimental to the progress of the children.

So laws must require timely State action to address the inequities where they persist so that we can provide the Federal resources and the support to the lowest performing schools.

Everyone hates talking about accountability. But, without it, we cannot help our low-performing students get back on track. Without clear expectations for reporting inaction, we are doing a disservice to students. These students will fall through the cracks.

I look around this room and I am proud to say that I am a public school kid and many of us in this Chamber are. We are products of our Nation's public school systems.

Look at us. Our communities have chosen us to be their voice. Our communities have chosen us to be their advocates and to fight for them in the classroom.

And I am sure that each of us has had an administrator, a teacher, a principal, who believed in us and put us on